

TOWN OF COTTAGE GROVE
BUDGET WORKSHOP
OCTOBER 19, 2010

- I. The meeting was properly posted at Town Hall, the park at 4539 American Way, Gaston Road at Brown Thrush and Hwy 12 & 18 at Hwy BN. A quorum of the Town Board was present with Town Chair Kris Hampton and Supervisors Mike Fonger, Steve Anders, Mike Kindschi, and Mike DuPlayee in attendance. Also present were Treasurer Debbie Simonson, Clerk Kim Banigan, Highway Superintendent Jeff Smith, Patrolmen Norm Schmelzer and Steve Querin-Scultz. Attorney Connie Anderson arrived at 7:10 P.M.
- II. Hampton called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M.
- III. Consider/adopt motion to move into closed session pursuant to Wisconsin Statute 19.85(1)(c) for the purpose of considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility: 2011 Employee Compensation: There was no motion for closed session. Hampton suggested that there be no wage increases for 2011, and there was general agreement among board members, along with expression that all employees are doing a good job for the Town. Smith asked the board to remember for future reference that this will make two years without increases while the cost of living continues to raise, especially insurance costs. Other budget areas discussed before the closed session below included:
 - Municipal Court – the only difference requested from the 2010 budget is a new computer system for the court clerk. Upon review, it was determined that there is money left in the 2010 budget to buy this computer system. **MOTION** by Fonger/Kindschi to purchase the computer system this year, using funds from account 50320 Judicial Expenses. **MOTION CARRIED 5-0.**
 - Smith had a quote from McCutchin Heating and A/C, LLC, to provide Spring and Fall maintenance service for the Town Hall, Garage, and Flynn Hall. Consensus was to solicit quotes from other HVAC service providers in Cottage Grove, including a breakdown of cost by building, to be considered at the October 28th budget workshop.
 - Stormwater/groundwater mediation projects were discussed, and Smith was directed to contact Engineer Warren Myers for an estimate of the cost to conduct a study of groundwater mediation options in the Nondahl area. There was also discussion of possibly surveying Nondahl residents regarding groundwater problems.
- IV. CONSIDER/ADOPT MOTION TO MOVE INTO CLOSED SESSION AS PERMITTED BY WIS. STATS. §19.85(1)(g) for the purpose of conferring with legal counsel who is rendering oral or written advice concerning strategy to be adopted with respect to the Olson Case: **MOTION** by Hampton/Anders to move into closed session for the reason stated above. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY ROLL CALL VOTE.**
- V. MOVE INTO CLOSED SESSION: Everyone except board members, the Clerk and Anderson were asked to leave, and the board entered into closed session at 7:26 P.M.
- VI. CONSIDER/ADOPT MOTION TO RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION: **MOTION** by Hampton/DuPlayee to reconvene to open session. **MOTION CARRIED**

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UNANIMOUSLY BY ROLL CALL VOTE. The closed session ended at 7:53 P.M., and Simonson and Smith rejoined the meeting.

VII. ACTION, IF ANY, AS A RESULT OF CLOSED SESSION: None

VIII. Discuss/Consider Town of Cottage Grove Budget for Fiscal Year 2011, including but not limited to:

- A. Town Board Legal Expenses: Town Board Legal expenses were set at \$17,000, and Town Board Litigation expenses were set at \$25,000.
- B. Court Legal Expenses: Anderson stated she will be taking over as court attorney since Chad Koplien is no longer available. Attorney rates will be the same as in 2010.
- C. Stormwater mediation projects: See above.
- D. Other areas discussed:
 - There was brief discussion as to whether it would be advantageous to sell the former Town garage at 4091 County Road N, or to continue leasing it.
 - Smith asked Anderson about possibly vacating more dead-end roads in 2011.
 - Legislative expenses were estimated.
 - Highway Maintenance: Smith presented costs equal to the 2010 budget when a County Highway grant of \$6,300 is figured in (for culvert on Ridge Road).
 - Highway Capital Expense: Smith said that the box on the 2001 Ford Pickup is rusted out from having the salt box in it, and he would like to replace it in 2011, a year ahead of schedule. It has ~81,000 miles on it. The possibility of just replacing the box was discussed, but consensus was to allow \$40,000 for a new truck in 2011.

IX. **MOTION** by Anders/Fonger to adjourn. **MOTION CARRIED 5-0.** The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 P.M.

Kim Banigan, Clerk

Open session minutes approved 11-01-2010.

Closed session minutes approved 11-01-2010 to remain closed until the matter is resolved.